Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, A significant number of residents of South Dakota are of Finnish descent; and,

WHEREAS, This distinguished group of citizens has contributed substantially in many ways to the pioneer settlement and subsequent development of the great State of South Dakota; and,

WHEREAS, This ethnic group through the years has continually honored their heritage with great fortitude and an enviable sense of humor as recipients of numerous amusing but questionable and unlikely tales of Finnish endeavor; and,

WHEREAS, Descendants of this noteworthy nationality have adopted the renowned St. Urho as the Patron Saint of the Finnish people in commemoration of his great deed, saving the grape crop in Finland by driving the grasshoppers out of that country with the now famous words, "Heinasirkka, heinasirkka, mene taalta hiitteen":

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 13, 1982, as

ST. URHO'S DAY

in South Dakota to be celebrated accordingly by all people of Finnish descent and friends.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, In Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventeenth Day of February, In the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Two

WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

ALICE KUNDERT, SECRETARY OF STATE